

HB 6005

I am in support of approving Senate Bill 129 and House Bill 6005. The Group Home at the Hartford Regional Center in Newington has been the HOME of my 55 year old brother Danny. Please note that I referred to this Group Home as a HOME and not just a HOUSE. Danny has resided at the Hartford Regional Center nearly his entire life; and more specifically at the beautiful colonial Group Home on Mountain Road in Newington for about 20 years. Danny is a fun-loving, happy man with the mental capacity of a toddler. He is ambulatory, and has many self-help skills; but is unable to speak with words; I am compelled to speak for him. It is my concern that moving Danny from the comfort level of all he has ever known could be devastating to him mentally, psychologically and physically; as he would have no comprehension as to why he is being displaced from the other residents and staff who have become his family for all these years. No one could possibly explain to him why the only world he has ever known is no longer there. Not only would this be devastating to Danny, and the others who have the comfort of their home there; but also to the aging parents of the residents who most are now in their eighties. My parentsDanny's parents.... are still both alive, and live only a few miles from Danny so that they can still go pick him up for weekly visits to their home. If Danny were to get relocated; the ability for my parents to continue to do this; which Danny obviously enjoys; would diminish.

I implore you to pass these bills so that Danny and the others may continue to reside in this lovely home.

Respectfully submitted,

Danny O'Toole's sister,

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